COMMITTING TROOPS REQUIRES CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL

(Mr. METCALF asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. METCALF. Mr. Speaker, I do not believe any Congress should allow any President to send our troops into any sovereign nation without the authorization of Congress. We in Congress are negligent if we do not insist on this restriction and, if necessary, refuse the money to pay for any foreign adventures undertaken without the specific authorization of Congress.

ACCOUNTABILITY BEFORE FLEXIBILITY IN EDUCATION BILL

(Mr. ETHERIDGE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, later today we will be taking up the rule and ultimately the bill on ed flex. I believe in having flexibility at the local level, but I think here we are getting the cart before the horse. We are forgetting that there ought to be accountability and a number of other pieces we ought to be dealing with before we give total flexibility.

Let me tell my colleagues why. I served as superintendent. There we required the local systems to identify subgroups. If you do not identify the subgroups, to children who are doing the poorest in the schools, and that is what the Federal money is designed to do, what you do is you mask the children with the greatest needs, and here we are talking about lumping all that money together and sending it down.

I trust the educators, I trust the parents, and I trust the teachers. The people I do not trust are the politicians.

□ 1030

I was there, and they will take that money, and if we do not watch them, the children with the greatest needs will be the children who are going to be left behind in the 21st century. We will pay a price for that, Mr. Speaker.

NOT NECESSARILY A CORRELA-TION BETWEEN MONEY AND SUC-CESS IN EDUCATION

(Mr. EWING asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. EWING. Mr. Speaker, education is everybody's priority. I do not think there is probably any issue in this House that could bring us together on a bipartisan basis more than improving education.

But what have we learned from history? Mr. Speaker, there was a recent article in a responsible and respected financial paper which rated the schools in America, and it also showed how much money was spent in each of those schools. I want to tell my colleagues

there is not necessarily a correlation between money and success in education.

We need, yes, money to the class-rooms, not to the bureaucrats. Yes, we need good teachers, not just 100,000 more. Yes, we need to make decisions at the local level, not here in Washington, and then we have to call on the families to send well fed, clean, rested children to school so they can learn.

Part of the responsibility, a major part, must rest with us, the parents.

SUPPORT ED FLEX

(Mr. WALDEN of Oregon asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, as the parent of a third grader in public schools in Oregon, I am absolutely committed to smaller class sizes. But the best way to do that is to fund the special education mandate, not to create more federal mandates and programs.

Coming from Oregon, which is one of the ed flex pilot States, I can tell my colleagues that our local parents, teachers and school boards can make the best decisions for our children, but it is time Washington kept its word and funded its mandates. I think unfunded federal mandates have done quite enough harm already to our public schools. It is time to expand ed flex all Americans. It is time to allow local schools to make their own decision about how best to spend Federal education dollars. That only makes sense.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the ed flex legislation that will be on the House floor later today.

DEMOCRATS OBJECT TO IMPROV-ING EDUCATION WITHOUT MORE FEDERAL REGULATION

(Mr. TANCREDO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I am incredulous at some of the comments of my friends from the other side, from the Democratic side, who continue to talk about education as being improved or the possibility of it being improved with just more regulation, the fear that if we gave freedom to the educators who we know, the people who teach our children, to the principals of the schools in which our children go to school; if we gave them more freedom, somehow or other our children would suffer as a result of it. I am amazed at that kind of an argument.

For years as a teacher, Mr. Speaker, I taught children, and I sat in class-rooms and in faculty lounges with other teachers who continually talked about the fact that they needed and demanded more freedom, that they were impeded in their ability to teach because of the regulations we place on them, both the State and Federal level.

So here we come, finally forward with a plan to give those teachers and those principals the freedom to actually teach children in the ways that they know work, and all of a sudden the Democrats in this body rise up, unanimously almost, to object to that.

This is very peculiar indeed, Mr. Speaker, very peculiar.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GOODLATTE). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the pending business is the question of the Speaker's approval of the Journal and the question on the motion to suspend the rules on H.R. 540, the Nursing Home Resident Protection Amendments of 1999, postponed from Tuesday, March 9.

Votes on motions to suspend the rules on H.R. 808, House Resolution 32 and House Concurrent Resolution 28 postponed from yesterday will be taken later.

THE JOURNAL

THE SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the pending business is the question of the Speaker's approval of the Journal of the last day's proceedings.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speak-

er, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 356, nays 39, not voting 38, as follows:

[Roll No. 34] YEAS—356

Blunt Collins Abercrombie Boehner Ackerman Combest Allen Bonilla Condit Andrews Bonior Convers Archer Bono Cook Boswell Armey Cox Bachus Boyd Coyne Brady (TX) Baird Cramer Baker Brown (FL) Crowley Baldacci Brown (OH) Cubin Baldwin Bryant Cummings Ballenger Cunningham Burr Danner Davis (FL) Barcia Burton Buyer Callahan Barr Barrett (NE) Davis (IL) Barrett (WI) Calvert Davis (VA) Camp Campbell Bartlett Deal DeGette Barton Bass Canady Delahunt Bateman Cannon DeLauro Bentsen Capuano DeLay Deutsch Cardin Berkley Carson Diaz-Balart Castle Dickey Berman Chabot Berry Dicks Chambliss Biggert Dingell Bilirakis Chenoweth Doggett Bishop Clayton Dooley Doolittle Blagoievich Clement Clyburn Dreier Blumenauer Coburn Duncan

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE

Dunn Largent Edwards Larson Ehlers Latham Ehrlich LaTourette Emerson Lazio Leach Eshoo Etheridge Lee Levin Evans Lewis (CA) Everett Ewing Lewis (GA) Lewis (KY) Farr Fletcher Linder Foley Forbes Lipinski Lofgren Fossella Lowey Lucas (KY) Fowler Frank (MA) Lucas (OK) Franks (NJ) Luther Maloney (CT) Frelinghuvsen Gallegly Maloney (NY) Ganske Manzullo Geidenson Martinez Gibbons Matsui Gillmor Gonzalez McCollum McGovern Goode Goodlatte McHugh Goodling McInnis McIntosh Goss Graham McIntyre Granger McKeon Green (TX) Meehan Green (WI) Meek (FL) Meeks (NY) Greenwood Hall (OH) Menendez Hall (TX) Metcalf Hansen Mica Miller (FL) Hastings (WA) Hayworth Miller, Gary Herger Miller, George Hill (IN) Hill (MT) Moakley Mollohan Hilleary Hinojosa Moore Moran (VA) Hobson Hoeffel Morella Hoekstra Murtha Holden Myrick Nadler Holt Napolitano Hooley Horn Neal Houghton Nethercutt Northup Hoyer Hunter Norwood Hutchinson Nussle Hyde Obey Inslee Olver Isakson Ortiz Ose Packard Istook Jackson (IL) Jackson-Lee Pallone (TX) Pascrell Jefferson Pastor Jenkins Paul John Payne Johnson (CT) Pease Johnson, E. B. Pelosi Peterson (PA) Johnson, Sam Jones (NC) Petri Jones (OH) Phelps Kanjorski Pickering Pitts Kasich Pombo Kelly Kennedy Porter Kildee Portman Kilpatrick Price (NC) King (NY) Pryce (OH) Quinn Kingston Kleczka Radanovich Knollenberg Rahall Kolbe Rangel Kuykendall Regula Reynolds LaFalce LaHood Lampson Rivers

Roemer Rogers Rohrabacher Ros-Lehtinen Rothman Roybal-Allard Royce Rush Scott McCarthy (MO) Shaw McCarthy (NY) Terry

NAYS-39

Rodriguez

Filner Aderholt Borski Brady (PA) Ford Gutierrez Brown (CA) Gutknecht Clay Costello Hastings (FL) Hayes Hefley Crane Hilliard Hulshof DeFazio English

Lantos

Ryan (WI) Ryun (KS) Salmon Sanchez Sanders Sandlin Sanford Sawyer Saxton Scarborough Schakowsky Sensenbrenner Serrano Sessions Shadegg Shays Sherwood Shimkus Shows Shuster Simpson Sisisky Skeen Skelton Slaughter Smith (MI) Smith (TX) Smith (WA) Snyder Souder Spence Spratt Stabenow Stark Stearns Stenholm Strickland Stump Sununu Sweenev Talent Tanner Tauscher Tauzin Thomas Thompson (CA) Thornberry Thune Thurman Tierney Toomey Traficant Turner Udall (CO) Udall (NM) Upton Velazquez Vento Walden Walsh Wamp Watkins Watt (NC) Watts (OK) Waxman Weiner Weldon (FL) Weldon (PA) Wexler Weygand Whitfield Wilson Wolf Woolsey

Young (FL)

Wvnn

Kucinich LoBiondo McNulty Moran (KS) Oberstar Peterson (MN) Pickett Pomeroy Ramstad

Rogan Sabo Tancredo Taylor (MS) Schaffer Stupak Towns

Becerra

Bilbray

Boehlert

Boucher

Cooksey DeMint

Dixon

Doyle

Engel

Frost

Fattah

Gephardt

Capps Coble

Visclosky Waters Thompson (MS) Weller

Wicker NOT VOTING-

Gilchrest Gordon Owens Hinchey Oxley Hostettler Reyes Roukema Kaptur Kind (WI) Sherman Smith (NJ) Klink Markey Taylor (NC) McCrery Tiahrt Wise McDermott Young (AK) McKinnev Millender McDonald Minge

□ 1055

Mr. NADLER changed his vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD, Mr. Speaker. during rollcall vote No. 34 on March 10, 1999, was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 34 on approving the Journal, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

NURSING HOME RESIDENT PROTECTION AMENDMENTS OF 1999

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GOODLATTE). The unfinished business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 540.

The Clerk read the title of the bill

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILI-RAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 540, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 398, nays 12, not voting 23, as follows:

[Roll No. 35]

YEAS-398

Abercrombie Boehner Combest Ackerman Bonilla Condit Aderholt Bonior Convers Cook Allen Bono Andrews Borski Cooksey Archer Boswell Costello Armey Boucher Cox Bachus Boyd Coyne Brady (PA) Baird Cramer Baker Brady (TX) Crane Baldacci Brown (CA) Crowley Baldwin Brown (FL) Cubin Cummings Cunningham Ballenger Brown (OH) Barcia Bryant Barrett (NE) Burton Danner Davis (FL) Barrett (WI) Buyer Callahan Bartlett. Davis (IL) Bass Davis (VA) Calvert Bateman Camp Canady Deal DeFazio Bentsen Bereuter Cannon DeGette Capuano Berkley Delahunt Berman Cardin DeLauro Berry Carson Deutsch Biggert Bilirakis Castle Diaz-Balart Chabot Dickey Bishop Chambliss Dicks Blagojevich Clay Clayton Dingell Bliley Doggett Blumenauer Clement Dooley Blunt Boehlert Clyburn Collins Doolittle Doyle

Dunn Edwards Ehlers Ehrlich Emerson Engel English Eshoo Etheridge Evans Everett Ewing Farr Fattah Filner Fletcher Foley Forbes Ford Fossella Fowler Frank (MA) Franks (NJ) Frelinghuysen Gallegly Ganske Gejdenson Gekas Gibbons Gilchrest Gillmor Gilman Gonzalez Goode Goodlatte Goodling Goss Graham Granger Green (TX) Green (WI) Greenwood Gutierrez Gutknecht Hall (OH) Hall (TX) Hansen Hastings (FL) Hastings (WA) Hayes Havworth Hefley Herger Hill (IN) Hill (MT Hilleary Hilliard Hinojosa Hobson Hoeffel Hoekstra Holden Holt Hooley Horn Houghton Hoyer Hulshof Hunter Hutchinson Hyde Inslee Isakson Istook Jackson (IL) Jackson-Lee (TX) Jefferson Jenkins John Johnson (CT) Johnson, E. B. Johnson, Sam Jones (NC) Jones (OH) Kanjorski Kasich Kelly Kennedy Kildee Kilpatrick Kind (WI) King (NY) Kingston Kleczka

Dreier

Duncan

Kucinich Kuykendall LaFalce LaHood Lampson Lantos Largent Larson Latham LaTourette Lazio Leach Lee Levin Lewis (CA) Lewis (GA) Lewis (KY) Linder Lipinski LoBiondo Lofgren Lowey Lucas (KY) Lucas (OK) Luther Maloney (CT) Maloney (NY) Manzullo Markey Martinez Mascara Matsui McCarthy (MO) McCarthy (NY) McCollum McDermott McGovern McHugh McInnis McIntosh McIntyre McKeon McKinney McNulty Meehan Meek (FL) Meeks (NY) Menendez Metcalf Mica Millender-McDonald Miller, Gary Miller, George Mink Moakley Mollohan Moore Moran (KS) Moran (VA) Morella Murtha Myrick Nadler Napolitano Nethercutt Northup Norwood Nussle Oberstar Obey Olver Ortiz Ose Owens Oxley Packard Pallone Pascrell Pastor Payne Pease Pelosi Peterson (MN) Peterson (PA) Petri Phelps Pickering Pickett Pitts Pombo Pomerov Porter

Portman

Quinn

Knollenberg

Kolbe

Price (NC)

Pryce (OH)

Radanovich

Whitfield

Wicker

Wilson

Rahall Ramstad Rangel Regula Reynolds Riley Rivers Rodriguez Roemer Rogan Rogers Rohrabacher Ros-Lehtinen Rothman Roybal-Allard Royce Rush Ryan (WI) Ryun (KS) Sabo Salmon Sanchez Sanders Sandlin Sawyer Saxton Scarborough Schaffer Schakowsky Scott Sensenbrenner Serrano Sessions Shaw Shays Sherwood Shimkus Shows Shuster Simpson Sisisky Skeen Skelton Slaughter Smith (MI) Smith (TX) Smith (WA) Snyder Souder Spence Spratt Stabenow Stark Stearns Stenholm Strickland Stupak Sununu Sweeney Talent Tancredo Tanner Tauscher Tauzin Taylor (MS) Terry Thomas Thompson (CA) Thompson (MS) Thune Thurman Tierney Toomey Towns Traficant Turner Udall (CO) Udall (NM) Unton . Velazquez Vento Visclosky Walden Walsh Wamp Waters Watkins Watt (NC) Watts (OK) Waxman Weiner Weldon (FL) Weldon (PA) Weller Wexler Wevgand